

PATENT

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the Final Office Action dated October 27, 2005. Claims 1-3, 5-23, 25-27 and 30-36 were examined. Claims 1-3, 5-8, 10, 13-17, 19, 20, 23, 25 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,794,901 to Bernstein et al. Claims 11 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bernstein et al. Claims 21 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bernstein et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,366,132 to Karnik et al. Claims 9, 18, 26, 35 and 36 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claims 30-34 are allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3, 5-8, 10, 13-17, 19, 20, 23, 25 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,794,901 to Bernstein et al.

Claim 1 is amended consistent with the subject matter indicated allowable in claim 9 to put the case in condition for allowance. Applicants believe that amended claim 1 is allowable over the art of record and respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-3 be withdrawn.

Claim 5 is amended to include allowable subject matter of claim 9 to put the case in condition for allowance. Applicants believe that amended claim 5 is allowable over the art of record and respectfully request that the rejection of claims 5-8, 10, 13-17, 19, and 20 be withdrawn.

Claim 23 is amended to include allowable subject matter of claim 35 to put the case in condition for allowance. Applicants believe that amended claim 23 is allowable over the art of record and respectfully request that the rejection of claims 23 and 25 be withdrawn.

Claim 27 is amended to incorporate limitations of claim 36 to put the case in condition for allowance. Applicants believe that amended claim 27 is allowable over the art of record and respectfully request that the rejection of claim 27 be withdrawn.

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Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 11 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bernstein et al. Applicants believe that claims 11 and 12 depend from an allowable claim and are allowable for at least this reason.

Claims 21 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bernstein et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,366,132 to Karnik et al. Applicants believe that claims 21 and 22 depend from an allowable claim and are allowable for at least this reason.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 9, 18, 26, 35 and 36 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 9, 18, 26, 35 and 36.

Claim 9 is canceled. Limitations of claim 9 are incorporated into claim 5.

Claim 18 is amended to depend from claim 5, an allowable claim. Applicants believe that claim 18 is allowable for at least this reason.

Claim 26 is canceled. Limitations of claim 26 are incorporated into claim 25.

Claim 35 is canceled. Limitations of claim 35 are incorporated into claim 23.

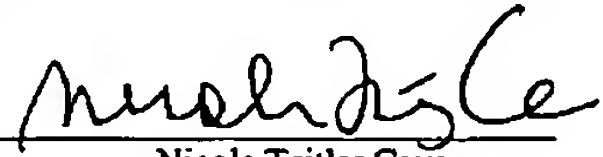
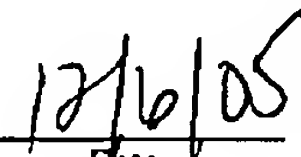
Claim 36 is canceled. Limitations of claim 36 are incorporated into claim 27.

Claims 30-34 are allowed. Applicants appreciate the allowance of claims 30-34.

Summary

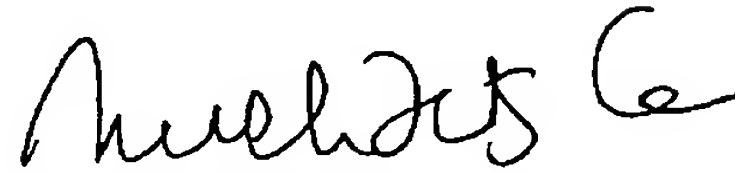
In summary, claims 1-3, 5-8, 10-23, 25, 27, and 30-34 are in the case. All claims are believed to be allowable over the art of record, and a Notice of Allowance to that effect is respectfully solicited. Nonetheless, if any issues remain that could be more efficiently handled by telephone, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,



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